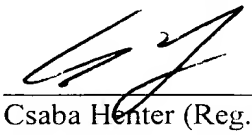
catalysts) were provided, which demonstrated that a catalyst promoted by both rhenium and phosphorus (JQ11) had a hydrodesulfurization activity, which was unexpectedly larger than catalysts promoted by either rhenium (JQ10) or phosphorus (JQ11) alone. Activity data were JQ9 = 1; JQ10 = 1.17; and JQ11 = 2.79. The data in the new declaration adds to the previous data information on a catalyst that is not promoted by either rhenium or phosphorus (JQ12). The activity data is JQ12 = 0.68. This data makes clear that when a NiMo catalyst is promoted by phosphorus alone, the increase in activity over the unpromoted catalyst is 1 - 0.68 = 0.32, which is an increase in activity of about 47 % (0.32/0.68). Comparing this to the increase in activity for the catalyst that is promoted by both rhenium and phosphorus over the catalyst that is only promoted by rhenium (activity is 2.79 - 1.17 = 1.62, which corresponds to an increase in activity of 138 % (1.62/1.17)), one can see that the increase due to the addition of phosphorus to a catalyst that that is also promoted with rhenium is significantly and unexpectedly larger than its (the phosphorus') addition to a catalyst that is not also promoted with rhenium. Nothing in the prior art leads one of ordinary skill in the art to expect such an increase in activity.

Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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